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C. D. BRIGHAM, Editor.

M. F. EGAN, Business Manager.

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☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

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The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet, containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the Family.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. X. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 23, 1872. NO. 90.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

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FIRST EDITION.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Confiscated Property of Orleans Princes Restored—Corn Pearl Expelled from France.

PARIS, December 21.—Beforeadjourning this afternoon the Assembly finally passed the bill restoring to the Orleans Princes their confiscated property.

The Cevaire, a Radical journal, has been suspended for advocating socialism.

Thiers had a conference at Versailles this afternoon with the Committee on Pardons respecting the Communists sentenced to death, who are to be executed before the end of the year unless commuted.

Thiers and his family return from Versailles to-morrow, and will stay here until the reassembling of the National Assembly.

Corn Pearl has been expelled from France, in consequence of M. Duval, son of the wealthy resident of Paris who founded soup houses, shooting himself in her presence. The attempt of Duval at self destruction did not prove successful, and he is expected to recover.

It is hoped in diplomatic circles that Greece will accede to the proposition to submit the Laurium mines question to France and Italy for arbitration.

French Parliamentary Crisis Predicted—Tobacco Monopoly Continued.

PARIS, December 22.—The *Republique Francaise*, personal organ of M. Gambetta, predicts a serious Parliamentary crisis when the Assembly meets in January. It says: 'The trimming tactics of the government only increase the disorder of the country, and threats of Ministers Dufaure and Joutard endanger the government's popularity."

The Assembly yesterday voted to continue the tobacco monopoly ten years. The two sub-Commissioners of the Committee of Thirty sit with closed doors.

The Alleged Government Interference With German Emigration.

BERLIN, December 22.—*Spener's Gazette* explains that the partial revocation of reduced fares for emigrants on the State and private railways in Germany is a question of internal administration, and was required of the government by considerations of political economy and of private companies by their own interests. The American press have greatly exaggerated the importance and distorted the significance of this trifling affair. The *Gazette* calls on the United States to do all in their power to bring to a satisfactory conclusion the negotiations for an emigration treaty, which America, not Germany, has delayed for years.

Odo Russell, British Ambassador, gave a ball last week, at which there was a brilliant gathering. Bismarck and other notabilities were present.

Flood in the River Thames—Thousands of Acres Submerged.

LONDON, December 21.—The river Thames, which has already overflowed its banks at many places, suddenly rose nearly a foot today at Windsor Home. The park is one vast lake of water and thousands of acres of other land are submerged. The present inundation of the Thames is the greatest since the flood of 1852.

The attendance was large yesterday in the churches at services for the success of the missionary enterprises of the English Church.

Russia on the War Path.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 21.—The *Imperial Gazette* says the question of the Lahiva campaign has again been discussed in government circles. It was resolved to undertake it.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 22.—The Khan of Khiva has summoned the auxiliary tribes to assist him against Russia.

Explosion in a Coal Mine—Eight Men Suffocated.

LONDON, December 23—6 A. M.—An explosion is reported in a coal mine at Silverdale, by which eight miners were suffocated.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

ROME, December 21.—The King has almost entirely recovered. The Empress of Russia is soon expected to visit Naples, accompanied by a fleet of Russian war vessels. An army bill was introduced in the Italian Parliament today, providing that all Italians between eighteen and forty shall be liable to military duty.

ROME, December 22.—The King has completely recovered from his recent illness.

PARIS, December 22.—President Thiers will go to Calais this week to witness artillery experiments.

European Markets.

LONDON, December 21, 2:30 P. M.—Consols for money 91⅞, and for account 91⅝@92. American securities quiet but steady—5-20s, of '62, 92¼; do '67, 92; 10-40s, 88¾; new 5s, 89¾; Erie, 5½.

LIVERPOOL, December 21.—Cotton quiet and steady; middling uplands 10¼@10⅜d; Orleans 10⅛@10⅜d; sales 10,000 bales, including 2,000 bales for speculation and export. Red winter 10 9d. Flour 30s. Corn 28s 5d@28s 6d. Beef 98s. Beef 98s. Cumberland middles 38s; short rib middles 39s.

ANTWERP, December 21.—Petroleum—Refined 52 francs.

Church Dedication at Crestline, Ohio—Discourse by Rev. Dr. Hayes.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CRESTLINE, OHIO, December 22, 1872.

The First Presbyterian Church of Crestline, recently completed, was dedicated to-day. The dedicatory services opened with a voluntary by the choir, followed by an invocation of the pastor, Rev. J. H. Shields, and reading of a part of the twenty-fifth chapter of Matthew by Rev. Mr. Moffit, after which the dedicatory sermon was delivered by the Rev. George F. Hayes, pastor of Washington College, Pennsylvania. The eloquent discourse of this gentleman was of a character to command and the marked attention of every one present, and left a beautiful prayer at the close of the services left but few dry eyes in the large congregation. The report of the building committee, whom the congregation had entrusted with the duty of completing the church, was read by A. M. Patterson, Esq., and the outstanding debt against the church of nearly twenty-three hundred dollars. Contributions immediately followed, and in a very short time the gratifying announcement was made to the congregation that the entire deficit was raised. The services closed with a benediction by Rev. Dr. Hayes.

Remarkably Cold Weather—Interruption of Railroad Transportation.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MANSFIELD, OHIO, December 22, 1872.

To-day has been the coldest of the season, the thermometer indicating twenty degrees below zero at sunrise, a point that has not been reached before for several years. It is moderating this evening, the mercury about at zero, with a southwest wind. The intense cold has interfered with railroad transportation to considerable extent. Passenger and water pipes about the machinery, stoppage of water supply at stations, &c., &c., blockade is extensive and serious, but will likely be lifted to-morrow.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Gen. Ambrose Ransom Wright, one of the editors of the Augusta *Chronicle and Sentinel*, and Congressman elect from the Eighth Georgia district, died Saturday morning.

The New Jersey Central Railroad Company has been restrained from interfering with the coal trade of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.

The remains interred on the site of Trinity Church, Boston, have all been removed, the last caskets having been taken from their resting place.

Capt. Frank Stanwood, of the Third Cavalry, U. S. A. died at Brighton, Friday.

The steamers Canada and Adriatic, from Liverpool, arrived at New York on Saturday.

Judgment was given Saturday, at Montreal, against Foster, the alleged Boston forger, and he was committed for extradition.

The last outstanding bond, amounting to $5,000 of the loan of Yarch 31, 1848, of which whole amount issued was $24,000, which matured July 1, 1868, has just been paid.

The citizens' indignation meeting at Saratoga, New York, resolved that the advertised cock-fight, with attendant roughs from New York and Troy, shall not take place in that city.

Number of hogs slaughtered in Ohio from the first of November till the present time 386,000.

A fire in St. Paul Saturday morning destroyed the Old Settlers' home on Ridge square, together with Warren's block and Presly's saloon. Loss $20,000.

The dwelling of Gen. McDonald, of Dartford, Green Lake county, Wisconsin, was burned Saturday afternoon. Loss $10,000.

Patrick Dougherty, who fatally stabbed Malvin Myers in Cleveland, July 17th, was acquitted on Saturday on a plea of self-defense.

George Farwell, agent of the Weed Sewing Machine Company in Painesville, Ohio, committed suicide in Cleveland, Saturday, by taking hydrate of chloral; cause intemperance.

A fire occurred at Dardenelle, Ark., Saturday night, destroying nearly half the business portion of the town, and the United States land office and postoffice. All the books in the land office were destroyed. Valuable documents in the postoffice were saved.

Receipts of hogs at the Union Stock Yards, Chicago, for the past week were 57,332, the largest number ever received in one week. Total number slaughtered to date 533,153.

The steamer Portsmouth has sailed from New York for the South Pacific exploring expedition.

The steamship Australis, from Glasgow, arrived at New York yesterday.

Feucht & Everhardt's grocery store, Front street, Memphis, was burned yesterday morning. Loss about $20,000. Insurance unknown.

The residence of Gen. John McDonald, Internal Revenue Supervisor, at Ripon, Wisconsin, was burned on Saturday. Loss over $10,000.

Five buildings were burned in Oregon, Illinois, Saturday evening, involving a loss of $15,000.

The weather had moderated greatly at Chicago yesterday evening, with indications of snow.

Ten inches of snow fell at Augusta, Me., yesterday, and drifted badly.

The Alabama legislators indulged in further skirmishing without sealing their differences. The Senate has been organized several days, and the House has elected the required officers, but the organization is not yet complete, and both parties continue to meet separately and transact business.

The steamer Manhattan, from Liverpool, arrived at New York yesterday.

The weather, in Evansville, Saturday night was the coldest for many years. William Hambeck was found yesterday morning so badly frozen after laying out all night that he will be crippled for life.

The machine shop of McDonald & Sons, Lapeer, Mich., was burned Saturday night. Loss $25,000.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 21, 1872.

THE LOUISIANA COMMITTEE.

The sub-committee of the Louisiana citizens delegation arrived here this morning their visit being made with a view of taking some measures at the North which may have an influence with reference to the troubles at New Orleans. The committee had a consultative meeting at noon and discussed the subject, but it is understood no definite action was taken. During the day they waited upon John Foley, a member of the Committee of Seventy. Congressman Roosevelt and other citizens were present. They related their grievances and asked for suggestions. Foley suggested that they petition the President, who, in his opinion, would promptly remedy any grievances existing.

THE LIABILITIES OF BOWLES BROS.

The London correspondent of the *Scotsman* states that the total liabilities of the exploded firm of Bowles Bros. at London, Paris, Nice, Geneva and New York are now stated to be something more than 50,000 pounds. The assets are not more than 18,000 pounds, of which sum the much larger part is of only hypothetical value.

JURY IN THE STOKES CASE.

The full jury was completed in the Stokes case today. The Judge cautioned them from speaking about the trial, and when the court adjourned they were locked up, but will be allowed to go to church in the morning in the custody of officers. The following are their names: David Eggleston, iron merchant; Charles S. Loper, retired merchant; John A. Eeyer, flour merchant; Abraham C. Morris, insurance agent; Charles A. Yosl, cutting merchant; Jesse M. Boiles, merchant; Joseph Sands, architect; David Hepburn, carpenter; George N. Mantemaker, truckmaker; Augustus Beckstein, provisioner; Cornelius W. Leuster, builder; Wm. P. Mitchell, printer.

BRAVY NONSENSE.

The steamer store house on the Hamburg docks, Hoboken, was robbed last night of four cases of silks and one case of foreign illustrated newspapers, valued at over ten thousand dollars.

OBITUARY.

Justice Lawrence, President of the Continental Life Insurance Company, died suddenly this morning at his home in Yonkers.

GOULD'S SETTLEMENT WITH ERIE.

The settlement of Jay Gould with the Erie Railway Company was consummated to-day. Among the property reverting to the company are the Grand Opera House, in which Fisk's widow was interested, and buildings on Duane street.

NEW YORK, December 22, 1872.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER.

Elisha Gregory, one of the proprietors of Canterbury concert saloon, was committed without bail today for attempting to kill George Wilson and accidentally shooting Theodore Williams in the Grand Central Hotel last evening.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO A. T. STEWART.

A. T. Stewart fell on the steps of his residence, on Fifth avenue, last evening, dislocating his ankle and breaking the leg.

SITE FOR COLUMBIA COLLEGE.

The Trustees of Columbia College have purchased a tract of land at Ft. Washington, in the upper part of the city, whereon it is expected the college will be permanently located.

DEPARTURE OF DESTITUTE ITALIANS.

Two hundred and thirty-five of the large number of destitute Italians recently arrived here left yesterday for Richmond, Va., to work on a railroad in that State. Eighteen had previously left for Vermont.

BASE BALL.

Six professional nines announced to be in the ball field next season. The Boston club will include Gould, Rogers, the two Wrights, Barnes, Schaffer, Leonard and Spaulding, with Hicks or Allison for catcher. McVey retires.

COLD COMFORT FOR CREDITORS.

The Receiver of Stuyvesant Bank makes a statement showing the assets to be $5,115, and liabilities $657,440. A large part of the assets are not now available, and the value of the remainder is not yet ascertained. It is said that the prospect of paying a dividend to creditors is very remote.

CASUALTIES.

Explosion at a Powder Works—Two Men Killed.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 22.—By an explosion at the Hercules Powder Works, six miles from this city, yesterday afternoon, two Chinese workmen were killed, one blown to atoms. William Cook, foreman, was seriously injured. Edwards by burning acids. It is stated that the explosion was caused by his intoxication. He will probably recover.

Explosion of Kitchen Range Water Pipes—Servant Girl Fatally Injured.

CINCINNATI, December 22.—A terrible explosion involving a probable loss of life occurred in the house of Col. Moulton this morning. The servant girl's had fired up the kitchen range, when the hot water pipe bursted with a loud explosion, tearing the range to pieces, wrecking the interior and fatally injuring Kate Conner, the servant girl, who ently against the wall of the room under a heap of embers. Her injuries from thisare very terrific, and it is thought she cannot survive. Col. Moulton succeeded in extinguishing the girl's burning clothing, but not before she was so badly injured that her recovery is extremely improbable. The water in the pipes outside the stove had frozen, preventing the circulation, and when the explosion must have been terrific, for the stove was torn to pieces, the heavy cooking and washing as well as the furniture were fearfully damaged.

The same sort of explosion occurred, with an alarming report, about the same time, at the Henrie House. The guests of the hotel were frightened, and rushed down stairs, but no one was injured. Fortunately no one was hurt and the damage was comparatively slight. The last named explosion is attributable to the same causes.

The Henrie House explosion of hot water pipe injured Bridget Gorman slightly on the head, fatally, by a blow from a fragment of iron. Several other servants in the room escaped. A piece of metal weighing one hundred and fifty pounds was thrown through the window into the street.

A Fatal Result from Like Cause.

HARRISBURG, PA., December 22.—Mrs. Samuel KNOX, residing on Walnut street, was killed this morning by the explosion of the cooking range water pipes, they having been frozen.

Still Another.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, December 22.—The kitchen range at the house of S. Pitts, Superintendent of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Indianapolis Railroad, exploded this morning with a terrible force. The ceiling, walls and furniture of the room were completely demolished. No one hurt. The freezing of the water in the pipes was the cause of the explosion.

Two or More—One Person Injured.

CINCINNATI, December 22.—An explosion of a hot water pipe in a cooking range occurred in the Great Western Hotel, a small house of entertainment, this morning. Cause, frozen water pipes. Mrs. Hoess, wife of the proprietor, was injured by a stroke from a fragment and will be scalded. A correspondent on correct in the private dwelling of Dr. P. F. Maley. No one injured.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 22, 1872, 8 P. M.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England winds backing to westerly and southerly on Monday, with increasing cloudiness; diminishing pressure and rising temperature. For the Middle States diminishing pressure, rising temperature, southerly to westerly winds and cloudy weather, with probable snow over the northern portion. For the Southern States and Gulf States west of Mississippi diminishing pressure, rising temperature, southerly to westerly winds and cloudy weather. From Tennessee to Ohio and over the Michigan diminishing pressure, southerly to westerly winds, cloudy weather and possibly snow during to-night and on Monday morning. The majority of the afternoon telegraphic reports from Louisiana and Texas to Iowa, Minnesota and Dakota are missing.

FIRES.

St. John's Episcopal Church, at Cincinnati, Considerably Damaged.

CINCINNATI, December 22.—A fire broke out at St. John's Episcopal Church, corner of Plum and Ninth streets, this morning just as the congregation commenced worship. Part of the floor in the front of the church was burned away. The fire started from the hot air register in the floor.

Damage by water and fire $1,000.

Two Churches in Providence, R. I., Damaged.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., December 22.—The Baptist Church in Warren was found on fire as the Sunday school was assembling this afternoon. The fire originated from the furnace. It was extinguished with a loss of about $5,000.

A fire in Pearl Street Church, at Fall River, this morning, was discovered in time to prevent serious loss.

New Orleans "Times" Office Closed by the United States Court.

NEW ORLEANS, December 21.—Upon the petition of J. H. McKee, Bridge Sheriff of the United States Circuit Court, issued a writ directing the United States Marshal to provisionally seize the New Orleans *Times* newspaper establishment, which order was executed last evening, and the office closed. Judge Alexander Walker and E. C. Hancock, associate editors of the New Orleans *Times*, will issue a newspaper to-morrow.

Fiendish Attempt—Retributive Justice.

HALIFAX, N. S., December 21.—William Wately, colored, a native of the Kingston Union Star, of Parrsboro, to avenge himself on the Captain, attempted to burn the vessel and kill all on board. He stripped off all hands while asleep, poured fluid on acid, then set fire to the vessel in the hold, but before he could extinguish himself he was suffocated by the smoke. The Captain awakened in time to arouse the crew and extinguish the fire. Wately, who belonged to St. Kitts, West Indies, was the only person who lost his life.

Railroad Engineer and Fireman Frozen to Death.

TOLEDO, OHIO, December 22.—The weather yesterday and to-day was the coldest in several years. The thermometer was fifteen degrees below zero at seven o'clock this morning. A locomotive became disabled between Goshen and Warsaw, Indiana, on the Cincinnati, Wabash and Michigan Railroad last night, and the engineer and fireman, in attempting to reach a residence a mile distant, were frozen to death.

The Weather in the North.

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Land Difficulties Settled.

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President Grant at Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, December 22.—President Grant arrived in Covington yesterday afternoon, and stayed with his father last night. He stops at the Burnet House to-night and will start to Washington by the Pan Handle at half-past seven in the morning. Expects to arrive there early Tuesday.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

The Chattanooga Postmastership.

Bard's Appointment Unsatisfactory.

Senator Caldwell's Election Expenses.

Damaging Bit of Testimony.

TEMPERANCE AT HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES.

Great Suffering in the Capital, and

AMONG INFIRM CONTRACTORS, EMPLOYEES, &c.

Extraordinary Ritualistic Demonstration.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 22, 1872.

The Chattanooga Postmastership.

Several gentlemen are here from Chattanooga to see what they can do about the late appointment and confirmation of Samuel Bard, of that place, as Postmaster. It seems that Bard received letters from several officials in that place strongly urging him for some public position, with the full understanding that he would not apply for any at Chattanooga, and the declaration on his part that he wanted to go out to the Territories. As soon as he reached Washington he used the letters to obtain the appointment of Postmaster, and then carried a pretended message from Senator Brownlow to his fellow Senators that he was not able to get out, but wanted the nomination confirmed at once.

The Kansas Bribery Case.

The following is one of the bits of evidence obtained by the Senate Committee inquiring into the charges against Senator Caldwell: Just as John D. Perry, President of the Kansas Pacific Road, was about to leave for Europe, he called on ex-Secretary of the Interior Usher, now attorney of that road, and told him that Caldwell was insisting that the road should pay him thirty thousand dollars as its share of his election expenses. Perry refused, on the ground that no such understanding existed. Caldwell insisted, and declared that the regular lobby agent of that road, at Topeka, had agreed that the road would help to that amount. Perry then agreed to go with Caldwell to Topeka, and learn from this agent whether any such promise had been made. The latter denied Caldwell's claim, but not in terms to satisfy Perry, and while it seemed quite evident from the visit that Caldwell had some right to expect that amount of help, Perry did not regard the company as bound to pay it.

No Spirits at Receptions, &c.

There was an influential meeting held this afternoon, at which Senator Wilson and Mr. Chickering, of Boston, took part, to aid the movement now in progress to banish liquor from all official and private receptions during the holidays and throughout the season.

Suffering in the Capital.

The severe cold has brought great suffering to the capital. The Board of Public Works to pay contractors, officers and employees has produced a far worse state of things than was supposed to exist. A large number of small dealers in groceries and fuel are on the point of suspending, and nearly all are unable to extend any further credits. It is now believed that the worst suffering will be realized during the coming week, through money it is hoped to raise upon the virtual pay-day of the million and a quarter appropriation bill.

The "Chronicle" and Federal Office Holders.

Senator Harlan's *Chronicle* continues its independent course toward Federal office holders who have lately been interfering in elections in the South. To-day it says, "It is time that some of these men understood that they can not be allowed to use the power to promote the success of Republicanism by controlling themselves with the duties of Federal offices and not seeking State positions."

Grand Ritualistic Performance.

The Ritualists of this city will hold services on Christmas which are expected to exceed any of that character yet held in this country. The surpliced choir of 100 men, organized a week ago, has been practicing for this special service for over two weeks. The performance will begin at midnight on the 24th.

The Louisville Canal to Pass Into the Hands of the Government—Liberal Appropriation for the Improvement of the Ohio Recommended by Gen. Negley's James River and Kanawha Canal Bill.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, December 21, 1872.

The probable action of Congress on the Louisville canal is a matter deeply interesting to the navigators of the Ohio. It has been placed, by the House Committee on Commerce, in the hands of a sub-committee, consisting of General Negley, chairman, and Judge Holman, of Indiana, and Mr. Conger, of Michigan, all of whom are familiar with commercial legislation, and understand the use of the canal as an intercourse. It is understood that they have agreed upon a proviso to be offered as an amendment to the River and Harbor appropriation bill, contemplating the early purchase of the canal, discontinuing the exclusive canal, and making it exclusively a government work; the tolls thereon to be reduced to five cents a ton on steam tonnage only, and abolished on everything else—all other craft being allowed to pass free. The small tonnage toll is retained merely to pay operating expenses and to keep the canal in repair. A heavy charge will thus be lifted from our inter state commerce. The proviso will appropriate two-thirds of the canal, and the high tolls that have been hitherto exacted were levied on account of the association of individuals in the work. Sound policy certainly requires that the rates of tolls should be at last no longer, and that no serious a tax upon an essential commercial artery should be removed.

It is probable that the appropriation to the improvement of the navigation of the Ohio will be very liberal this year, though at no time, until the last session, has it been more than $50,000—a discreditable mockery of one of the greatest interests of the country. The increase is owing to an improved feeling upon the subject, and a truer understanding of the vital importance of cheap inland navigation. Colonel Merrill's report, sent in this session, gives this account of the disposition of the $200,000 appropriated last June: "To construction of the fine-house dike, Chartiers creek dam, Wheeling dam, Buffington dam and dike, Evansville dike, Cumberland dam, and to the removal of the wreck of the Black Hawk and Bacon rock, and to the general snagging and dredging operations. This distribution will give to the river above the falls $46,000, and to the river below the falls $20,000. Leaving $22,000 for snagging and dredging."

There are some in your community who censure General Negley for introducing a bill providing for the completion of the James River and Kanawha canal. Most of these fault-finders have not taken the trouble to examine the merits of the work in question. The enormous surplus products of the James valley, before reaching the seaboard, must pass, or by existing transit methods, subjected to a heavy tax of exaction fee by every class of producers and consumers. The freight charges are so onerous as to double and often quadruple the cost of production, leaving the whole agricultural community penalized for its outlay and his toil. A water communication like the one proposed, would take off more than one-half of this exaction, which would be withdrawn from the monopolies and enure to the benefit of the producers and consumers.

Besides, this is the most feasible line, south of the New York canals, for a water communication between the West and the seaboard. The canal has is already finished and in operation to Buchanan, in Botetourt county, James river. The completion of the proposed improvement—the western portion being yet to finish, part slack water and part canal. The length of the line from the Ohio, at the mouth of the Kanawha, to tide water on the James river, is but 196 miles, the remaining distance only completed. When all of it is done and in use, it will open for a cheap route the region of Virginia tributary to Pittsburgh furnaces, by a cheaper route than by any which can be constructed; it will increase the wealth and population of all lands while adding to the acid, then set fire to the vessel in the hold, but before he could extinguish himself he was suffocated by the smoke. The Captain awakened in time to arouse the crew and extinguish the fire. Wately, who belonged to St. Kitts, West Indies, was the only person who lost his life.

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RAILWAY MATTERS.

The New Warren and Venango Railroad—Entrance of it to Titusville Barred—The Officials Take the Case Into Court, and the People Appeal to the Common Council.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

TITUSVILLE, PA., December 19, 1872.

There are probably few cities in this country desiring competition against existing railroad monopolies, or what are believed or thought to be monopolies, that would fail to welcome and assist a new road promising and capable of affording all needed elements of competition. Astonishing as the statement may be, however, it is nevertheless the fact that the officials of this city have indirectly, and by their "masterly inactivity," extended a freezing welcome to the new Warren and Venango Railroad, and in endeavoring to stand, Janus-like, between the Oil Creek Road and the new enterprise, they have forfeited the respect and soured the temper of a very large portion of the business men here. For a month past the officers of the Warren and Venango road have eyed the city from the vicinity of Watson Flats, a mile below, and their prospect to-day of gaining an entrance for their track is but little better than when it came in sight of the city. The first opposition met was when attempting to lay the road across the abandoned Union and Titusville track, which extends some distance out in the direction from which the new road came. Here the Oil Creek Railroad Company placed two locomotives, with trains of freight cars, and, of course, when the track layers of the Warren and Venango reached the point where it was intended to intersect the Union and Titusville, they were obliged to halt. A conference was then had between Colonel Wm. Phillips, Colonel Lawrence and Colonel J. Cargill Smith, representing the two roads, which resulted in no change in the attitude of the Oil Creek railway officials. Application was then made to the Courts for an order granting the right to cross, and there the matter is pending as between the two roads. Of the merits of the quarrel between them and their probable result, it is not necessary to say anything, as it will undoubtedly be terminated by the granting of permission to the Warren and Venango to come in over another route. To obtain this permission the citizens, with a few unimportant exceptions, have united in a petition to the Common Council to allow the new track to be laid up Water street as the same is now laid, and referred to the Street Committee, and it is remarks, which are appended, there may be detected a gentlemanly but pardonable expression of positive dissatisfaction at the treatment his road has received. He said:

"MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN:—We have got our line down to a point, where we are blockaded, and we have been endeavoring for the past six months to get an entrance into the city. In relation to running up Water street it seems to be the only line that can direct from that point to Pease road, part of the city, and I think if an ordinance is passed allowing the railroad to build a track, it should require that it be built near the present one, and to be planked, so as not to be a nuisance any more than in the case that all railroad tracks passing dwellings are to some extent nuisances. It should be made as good as it can be made, and that would be a great deal better than at present. We have been to a great deal of expense to get this road here, and if the people want it, I suppose they do want, considering the building of this line in the interest it has to the city. I think, therefore, that the advantages we offer will more than compensate for any appropriation or allowance that it makes in that matter. Whether or not you have a right to do that I don't know, but that is a matter you are the best to judge of.

In now remains to be seen whether the very modest request preferred, backed up as it is by the voice and opinion of the entire community, will be disregarded. Titusville has long suffered from discrimination in freight rates, and how when there is a reason to probability that it will be made a "common carrier" is something that it has long had unsuccessfully contended, obstructions are thrown in the way. There is some satisfaction, however, in the knowledge that the Board of Trade of this city has already headed off it that really be the design backed up by the whole power and wealth of the New York Central Railroad, and with legal rights of entrance which can and will be asserted, but only after a great loss of time, a thing for the road it has here. The wish of the citizens, however, is that a cordial and friendly relation may exist, according all the privileges consistent with the city's interests and their wishes will, it is hoped, in the end prevail.

Income Tax on Coupons and Dividends to be Refunded.

The Supreme Court of the United States has affirmed the decision of the United States Circuit Court in the Pennsylvania Circuit relative to the collection of the income tax on coupons and dividends for the first seven months of 1870, in the case of the Pennsylvania Railroad against Partons. The decision of the Court below, it will be remembered, was against the collection. The opinion of the Supreme Court was given by eight Judges to one, the latter divided in their view of the law in the case. The decision does not, therefore, settle the matter, because so far as respects the case to which it referred. In the present instance the Secretary of the Treasury must refund the tax collected. Each case that will come forward hereafter will be tested on its own merits.

The Narrow Gauge in Canada.

The Toronto *Mail* has the following: The opponents of the narrow gauge system are now few and far between. The eastern section of this city, at one time approaching stagnation, has been revived to a state of great prosperity by the Toronto and Nipissing, and the fertile country through which that road runs has made rapid strides and gained much in wealth. The Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway has been equally successful. For the past half year the increase in the carrying trade has necessitated the construction of additional rolling stock, and yet there are not cars enough to carry off the large quantities of produce now lying at the way stations. A short time ago the people of Caledon, in the County of Peel, Township Council setting forth the necessity for further accommodation. That municipality gave a liberal bonus of $45,000 to the road, and slightly felt that it was entitled to all the accommodation required by its business. In accordance with the petition, the Reeve, Deputy Reeve, Councillor Hall and Clerk Dawson were appointed to act as a deputation to wait upon the directors of the road. Yesterday they had an interview with Messrs. Gordon, McMurrich and others, and no doubt the wants of their township will be attended to as soon as new cars can be constructed. The road that cannot supply rolling stock fast enough to meet the requirements of its business is in a sound and healthy position. The success of the two narrow gauge roads is one more accomplished fact. If the Grand Trunk and the lines of the Credit Valley road will be as sure and certain.

Another Combination Foreshadowed.

There have been for some time ungrounded reports of a combination to unite under one management the Erie, the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, the Chicago and Northwestern, and Union Pacific, which would give a continuous line from New York to the Missouri river, and a continuous line from New York to eastern terminus of the Central Pacific Railroad, and to San Francisco. The recent developments in Erie, together with the close relations of Jay Gould with the Albany & Susquehanna, give color to these reports. The Clark party would then have a line entirely independent of Commodore Vanderbilt, whose line would end at Buffalo, unless he made connection with some of the Canada roads. Of course a third rail would have to be laid from the Erie road to assimilate its gauge with the Lake Shore. The correspondents from the latter point was brought, strongly favor of the truth of these reports. On this theory could be explained the tenacity with which the Clark party have held Union Pacific; the close relations of Clark and Sidell with Gould in the Northwestern movement; the latter's dissatisfaction expressed by Commodore Vanderbilt, and many minor circumstances.

New Way of Paying Dividends.

The Bank of New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad has inaugurated a new system for paying their dividends which saves some trouble, and is worthy of imitation. The stockholder (instead of drawing his dividends through the bank and paying the bank a fee for doing the business as heretofore) receives a printed form, stating the amount of dividends due him, signed with a blank order, which he simply signs and returns to the treasurer of the company, who sends him a check for the amount due.

The Pennsylvania Central's Through Line to Boston.

New Haven is pleased at the proposition of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad to run a line of steamboats between Jersey City and New Haven, to connect with the Air Line Road, thus opening a through route in the interest of the Central to Boston. This will save some hours' time, and give Boston a new freight line to the West.

A Romance of Crime.

A young man, who gave his name as William Anderson, which was assumed, was sent to the Iowa penitentiary from Davenport a few days ago, having been convicted on a charge of burglary. Some incidents in his career in the west are of interest to come to light.

He is the son of a prominent and wealthy citizen of Detroit, and received a thorough education, graduating with honor at one of New England's foremost colleges. After a trip to Europe and several months spent in traveling in this country, he returned to Detroit, where his father secured him a partnership in a leading dry goods house. While occupying this position he met a woman of beauty, fascinating address and finished education, several years older than himself, of whom he became completely enamored. On her the young man lavished money; and when he had drained his own purse, stole funds from the store, gambled, and finally committed several forgeries, in order to meet her demands. When his crimes came to light the woman left the city and he has never since heard of since. The sorrowing father, to save his name from disgrace, made good the sums stolen from the store, quietly paid the forged paper, and gave the erring son a considerable amount of money with which to commence business anew in the far West. He kept up no correspondence with his family from that time, and had it not happened that a letter from Detroit was present in the court room at the time of his trial, it is probable that they would have not known of his present whereabouts.

From the official report of the government it is learned that the grape crop in Italy this year was not so good as usual. In the dozen or more grape districts into which the kingdom is divided, the grape harvest has varied; some of the northern and southern provinces have fared better than those of the center. In the general summing up it is stated that in 67 communes the crop was excellent, in 223 good, in 169 mediocre, and in 8,328 bad. As compared with last year, the result shows an aggregate falling off of one quarter of the whole. The Electoral Census of Italy is to the country as important as the cotton crop is to the United States, and whatever is connected with it is watched with as much interest.

Who Killed Them?

Abel's
Vermin Exterminator,
The only Reliable.
It has no Equal for banishing
Rats, Mice, Roaches, &c.
Sold by Druggists Everywhere
At 25 cents per bottle.
Try it, and you will use no other.

THE Philadelphia bar gave the late Justice Thompson a banquet at the Continental Hotel on Thursday evening. The proceedings, which are fully reported in the city papers, were creditable alike to members of the bar and their distinguished guest—reporters not having been excluded.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE AT FAULT.

A FIVE YEARS' MYSTERY.

A Murdered Man Appears---The Alleged Murderer Vindicated.

The reappearance of Mr. Blodgett, of De Witt, N. Y., who was supposed to have been murdered near that place some five years ago, proves that inference as well as murder "will out," and shows the danger of tr

The Daily Commercial.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1872.

HORACE GREELEY'S death was strikingly foretold by one of his old associates in the *Tribune*—and an ardent supporter of his Presidential aspirations—who early in the canvass wrote to another that whether successful or not it was scarcely probable that Mr. GREELEY would long survive the result.

PRESIDENT GRANT with members of his family passed through the city westward on Friday night for the purpose of paying a visit to his father and other relatives. Vice President COLFAX followed on the next day, intending to pass the holidays at his home in Indiana after paying a brief visit to friends and relatives in Ohio.

CONGRESS will not reassemble until the 6th of January. It has made commendable progress during the session, and its affairs are in comparatively good shape. There has not, thus far, appeared much disposition to indulge in buncombe speeches, the campaign having pretty effectually settled political matters. It is to be hoped a similar business-like directness may prevail during the remainder of the session.

A WASHINGTON correspondent of the *World* says that notwithstanding the failure of the negotiations for the present it is probable that mutual friends will succeed in perfecting an arrangement by which Mr. COLFAX will become the editor of the *Tribune* on the first of March. There is ground for saying that Mr. COLFAX regards the matter differently, and that under no circumstances will he take the position so long as any of the parties in interest are not satisfied with such arrangement.

THE scandal over Mr. GREELEY'S will is to be continued, although those immediately interested—his daughters, brother and sisters—have voluntarily signed a paper removing the original grounds on which the contest was based. The contestants, some of Mr. GREELEY'S oldest and closest friends, seem determined to prove him insane and make out the worst possible case for him in the eyes of the public—what for does not appear. The reason, whatever it may be, is stronger than their love for their late friend and associate, and will doubtless develop itself as the scandal goes on.

PERSONS may differ with Postmaster General CRESWELL about the feasibility of his postal telegraph plan, but few will be inclined to do so in regard to the exactions of the overshadowing monopoly under the name and title of the Western Union Telegraph Company. Like railway monopolies, it is provoking a cry from press and people which sooner or later will be heard. If the managers of that monopoly desired to strengthen Mr. CRESWELL in his efforts in behalf of the postal telegraph, they could do it in no way more effective than by enforcing their unjust exactions. This is a government of, for and by the people and all evils, when they become unbearable, will have a remedy. Mr. ORTON don't seem to understand this.

IT is remarkable what an interest certain persons, who take very little interest in anything else tha don't pay, manifest in the question of subsidies for the building up of our commerce. Of course they are for re-establishing our commerce on the ocean, although not many of them concern themselves about subsidyless questions. Just start a subsidy measure and they are instantly at their post. The truth is, the country would be far better disposed towards subsidies but for this sort of interest, assured only of the worthiness of the objects and that they would really get the subsidies voted. It is one of the greatest of scandals and an evil most dangerous, that a bill that has no money in it commands few friends and has to be carried at the hardest, though linked ever so closely to the general welfare. When Congress reassembles see if there are not plenty of illustrations of the truth of these observations.

THE question of the constitutionality of prohibitory liquor laws is about to come before the Supreme Court of the United States, in the shape of an appeal from a decision by the Supreme Court of Iowa. It is maintained by the appellant that the prohibitory law of that State is in conflict with the Federal Constitution, because it forbids the importation of liquors into the State under certain restrictions. This is held to be in conflict with those provisions of the Federal Constitution which vest in Congress the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and between the States, and forbid preference in favor of the ports of one State over another, and the laying of imposts or duties on imports and exports. The case is of considerable public importance, inasmuch as the general principles underlying it have equal reference to all other States in which prohibitory liquor laws exist and are proposed. It is, we believe, the first instance in which the question has been appealed to the Court of last resort.

OF THE persistency of monopolies there is no end. Last spring we called the attention of the press to the effort, then being made, to obtain from Congress a renewal of the WILSON patent for a "feed motion" to sewing machines; urging united and earnest opposition to the application, on the ground that the inventor and patentee had been amply compensated, and that the extension would tend to prevent the introduction of other practicable improvements in sewing machines, besides keeping up the cost of their purchase or hire to a figure far above what it ought in justice to be. The patent has already had a run of twenty-one years, and everybody in any way interested in it has been richly remunerated for whatever inventive genius or pecuniary outlay may have been expended upon it. The Commissioner of Patents, moreover, has steadily declined to grant the renewal asked for. Another effort is now being made to obtain it from Congress. It is to be hoped the press will again take cognizance of the matter, which affects the interests of the poor, and demand of Congress that it shall stand firm in their behalf.

WONDER what he would think if he occupied a similar position in our own country? The Lord Chief Justice of England a short time since formally stated from the Court of Queen's Bench, that the whole object of legislation seemed to be to embarrass the Court; complaining that his "whole time was taken up in construing acts of Parliament incapable of any rational construction." There is perhaps a still more woful lack of clearness and definiteness on the part of our own legislators, State and National. It is but a few months ago, for instance, since Congress passed a voluminous act codifying all the legislation relating to the Postoffice; but before it was a month old a number of its provisions were found to be absolutely unintelligible, so conflicting were their various requirements and the different constructions placed upon them. Some of these were last week corrected, but how soon the amendments themselves will be found to need amendment, nobody can yet tell. It will probably be long, however. Why is it that our statutes should be so much less consistent and intelligible than ordinary business papers and documents?

IN THE absence of all probability of the adoption of the Fort Sixteenth Constitutional Amendment, making foreign born citizens eligible to election as President of the United States, that paper might perhaps derive some satisfaction from advocating, in the stead of its own proposition, that of one Congressman KING, of Missouri, who has introduced a resolution to amend the organic law of the nation, by not only making it unlawful for white citizens, male or female, to contract marriage with "African or other colored" inhabitants, but also, as a further means of avoiding the danger of such results "from personal intercourse and contact," by directing the immediate repeal of all State laws prohibiting compulsory separation of the races in schools. Judging from the growing infrequency of our neighbor's attacks on the Fifteenth Amendment, it is becoming somewhat tired of butting its head against the wall in that quarter. Here, however, is a wholly new field for straight, square, anti-"nigger" utterances, without any necessity for constraint or mealy-mouthedness. Such a famous opportunity for airing its oracular wisdom is not likely soon to occur again, and it seems a pity that it should be permitted to pass by neglected.

A FEW DAYS AGO we made some observations concerning the revival of the shipping interests of New England. Similar gratifying tokens of a vigorous restoration of this important national interest are discernible at other points. New York papers refer to the generally favorable appearance of affairs connected with the ship-building industry in that locality. According to these accounts the impetus given to the business there is marked and encouraging as the revival in New England. Now that wages have so greatly risen abroad, equalizing that branch of outlay in the construction of vessels, it is held that they can be built almost or quite as cheaply in this country as in England; indeed, one of our most prominent and enterprising firms, that of JOHN ROACH & SON, of the famous Chester yards, have actually underbidden the builders of the Clyde in terms and specifications sent for the building of four first class iron steamers that are to be constructed for an Italian line, organized for the purpose of running between Naples and New York. Like those of Maine and Massachusetts, the New York builders have fully as much business as they can do this winter. Altogether, there is an excellent prospect of such a permanent revival of this important branch of business as bids fair, at no distant date, to place its once more on a par with foreign vessels in the same line.

THE PRINCE AND THE COUNT.

Prince BISMARCK'S resignation of the headship of the Prussian Cabinet for the purpose of devoting himself wholly to his functions as Chancellor of the Empire was announced several days ago. This step, judged differently by different parties, is considered as important by all, and it has naturally given rise to a good deal of discussion. Several reasons are assigned for the Prince's action, and "the terrible Chancellor," as CARLYLE once called him, has played so momentous a part in contemporary history that these reasons are likely enough to interest readers who may know little and care less about German politics. Perhaps a sufficient motive for the step might have been found in the state of the Prince's health, which has long been so delicate as to render necessary from time to time, retirement to his estate in the country and at least partial secession from all business and care. Nobody, however, seems to regard this as an entirely satisfactory explanation of the fact. It is alleged as something indubitable that the real explanation is found in the result of a division which has long existed in the Prussian Cabinet.

Nearly a year ago Prince BISMARCK and Count EULENBERG, Minister of the Interior, disagreed decidedly concerning some provision in the much agitated act relative to the inspection of schools, and when consequently the Count, the only member of the Cabinet who sat in the House of Deputies, voted against this particular paragraph, the Prince regarded his action as an intentional affront, as the effect of it was to weaken the government by diminishing the majority which supported the bill, and by enabling the conservative party to found hopes upon divisions in the ministry. Then it seems that the reform bill, lately the matter of conflict between the government and the *Herrenhaus*, was prepared and introduced into the House of Deputies without consultation with BISMARCK. Hence when the *Landtag* met, and the struggle for the passage of the bill began between the government and the *Herren*, the Prince remained at Varzin, his country seat, and persistently refused to heed the repeated appeals of EULENBERG to go to Berlin, and help by his influence to prevent the rejection of the measure and the triumph of the feudalists. He answered that, as his position as chief of the Cabinet had been disregarded, and the act had been constructed and proposed without taking his advice, he felt no call or obligation to aid in the rectification of the blunder which had been committed. And when the bill had been rejected by an overwhelming majority, BISMARCK'S newspaper organs, savagely assailed EULENBERG, Minister of the Interior, as a man utterly destitute of the qualifications demanded by his office. Having said so much it was hardly necessary to give expression to the obvious inference that the Count ought, by his resignation, to make way for a more competent successor. It is thought likely that representations of the same tenor were privately made by BISMARCK to the Emperor with the view of effecting Count EULENBERG'S retirement. But if this was done the effort proved fruitless. The Count is said to be an especial favorite of the Emperor, and in the subsequent management of the reform bill, he is admitted to have displayed a degree of tact and ability which completely refuted the unfavorable judgment of him expressed in the organs of BISMARCK, and certainly he enjoyed by the Prince himself. In other words, if the foregoing statement is correct, the lengthened dispute between the Count and the Prince terminated in the triumph of the former, and the defeat is believed to have had much to do with Prince BISMARCK'S resolution to withdraw from the Prussian Cabinet, and, in future to give all his attention and energies to the affairs of the Empire.

Many members of the Liberal party in Prussia are said to regret this step of the great Minister, as they fear that the importance of Prussia among the States of the Empire may suffer detriment by the change, or rather, their thought is that the predominance of Prussia in the Empire makes it necessary that the affairs of both should be conducted by the same functionary. Others, however, are of opinion that the change will be of advantage both to the Kingdom and the Empire. No longer responsible for Prussian politics, the Chancellor will be enabled more effectually to resist the Prussian Separatists or State Rights party, and more independent than formerly, less exposed to the influences and intrigues of the Court, he will, they think, be enabled with better results than ever to represent the Empire and carry out those principles of reform which concern the entire country.

COLONEL BOUDINOT, a Cherokee Indian of marked ability and culture, has addressed a letter to Hon. FELIX R. BRUNOT, Chairman of the Board of Indian Commissioners, dissenting from so much of his report (recently printed in these columns) as relates to the Indian Territory. Colonel BOUDINOT considers Mr BRUNOT, who opposes the passage of the Territorial bill now before Congress, to have been misinformed in regard to the correct status of that Territory and the wishes of its people. He points out that as long ago as 1866 Congress abrogated a portion of the Cherokee Treaty of 1866; that the questions of propriety and legality involved were for more than a year thoroughly discussed before the Judiciary Committee, and that in May of last year the Supreme Court of the United States indorsed the action of Congress in abrogating the treaty. He shows, further, by citations therefrom, that the treaties of 1866 with the various civilized tribes, expressly provide for a Territorial government, should Congress and the President consider such a government necessary for the better administration of justice and the protection of the rights and property of persons in the Indian Territory. This, also, it would seem, is the view entertained by the present Chief of the Cherokee nation, who holds that the whole matter is, under the treaties, left to the discretion of Congress. Colonel BOUDINOT states that a very large portion of the Cherokees are in favor of just such a Territorial government as the President has recommended, but that they are afraid to advocate the measure openly for fear of assassination; which, he says, is among that tribe the uniform argument in answer to every proposition for progress and reform which in the least disturbs their prejudices. The letter is very moderately and ably written, and will be likely to have more or less effect on the pending controversy over the proposed measure.

WHETHER members of Congress did or did not deal corruptly in or were corrupted by the stock of the Credit Mobilier, it is a fact that a considerable number were interested in that security. It is in evidence that a few of such investors got out of the concern when they perceived that it would come before Congress and they would have to act on it. While it is not best to be too suspicious, it is difficult to believe that all was fair and honest, in every instance. One of the lamentable things the public has to contemplate is the alleged propensity among Congressmen, at both ends of the Capitol, to make money out of their office. The belief exists that bills are sometimes passed by the use of money; and until it is explained how a Congressman can make more thousands than his salary amounts to and spend a sum equal or more than the whole of it, the public will be excused for suspecting that it is not all right. It is not, perhaps, what is positively known in the case of a corrupt character so much as the conviction, too well established by a variety of general reasons, of Congressional corruption, that attracts the attention of the country to the Credit Mobilier scandal. Whatever may be the precise outcome of the investigation, it is to be hoped, and there is some reason for believing that, for a time at least, Congressmen will be taught a lesson, and made to be more cautious, if not more virtuous. Could the House or Senate screw itself up to expel a member or two for ascertained corruption the prospect would be still more hopeful.

THE conflict of interests between the iron masters of Great Britain and their employees, which some time ago we foresaw and predicted, has already come to pass. The late successive reductions in the price of iron, of course rendered it necessary to decrease also the cost of manufacture, which, it seems, has been effected by cutting down wages ten per cent. This step led to a recent meeting of the Amalgamated Miners' Association—a numerous and powerful body of workingmen—for the purpose of taking action with regard thereto, at which it was decided to resist the reduction by every means in their power. The decrease, it is said, extends not only to the colliers employed by the iron masters, but also, from their intimate connections, to those in the employ of the steam coal owners in the West of England and South Wales. The problem to be solved is a grave one. On the one hand, a reduction of ten per cent. in the wages of the workingmen at this season of the year cannot fail to work considerable hardship among them and their families; while on the other, if, as is claimed, the manufacturers cannot obtain cost for their product at the old rate of wages, they might as well discontinue operations. It is quite certain, too, that recourse to strikes will not mend matters in the least. It is sincerely to be hoped such an adjustment of the difficulty may be reached as will be satisfactory to all parties concerned.

IN THE course of some recent remarks concerning the policy lately inaugurated by the government of Prussia, having for its object the prevention, or at least the discouraging of emigration from that country to this, we expressed the opinion that it would produce a result almost exactly the opposite of that which was intended. The latest intelligence from Germany shows this to have been the case. It is said that the number of farmers, mechanics and others, who are making preparations to emigrate is much greater than ever before, and that as soon as the season opens there will be such a hitherward rush as was never yet witnessed. Popular associations for the promotion of emigration and colonization are being organized all over the country, with carefully formed rules and regulations for future operations. The government is reported to be watching the movement with great interest and not a little anxiety, feeling that its future power as a nation largely depends on its ability to keep its able-bodied men at home. Whether the threatened hegira will lead to any further action on the part of the government remains to be seen.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The lager beer brewers, representing many of the leading establishments in New York, New England, New Jersey and this State, in convention in the former city, have resolved to resist by all legitimate means the contemplated additional tax on malt liquors. Associations with that object in view are to be formed for the purpose of maintaining thorough organization. State legislation, with reference to the brewery interest, will also come within the scope of their operation.

The temperance men of Baltimore are holding a series of meetings, the object of which is to discourage the use of egg nogg and similar tempting drinks during the holidays. Vice President Colfax, Senator Wilson and other distinguished gentlemen are among the speakers announced.

The medical students of Montreal are a bad lot, if the Toronto *Globe* is to be believed. It states that they steal bodies from the dissecting room of a medical college, sell them to a rival establishment; and get drunk on the proceeds.

A new febrifuge, said to be an excellent substitute for quinine, and which is much cheaper, consists of the green leaves of the laurel, or "Laurus Nobilis," which are dried in a close vessel on a fire, and are afterwards reduced to fine powder, of which one gramme, or 15.5 grains may be taken as a dose in a glass of cold water.

The American Geographical Society has been requested to collect for the Vienna Exposition such, maps, photographs of scenery, geographical and geological reports and statistics as shall best exhibit the geographical features, state of commerce and trade, and the material progress of the United States.

Nebraska proposes to appoint a State Forester, who shall see to the preservation of the forests and diffuse information on trees planting. There ought to be such an official in every State in the Union.

Here is food for the superstitious. Fourteen years ago an aged lady of Portland, Maine, fell dead from heart disease while winding up an old-fashioned clock. The time was ten minutes before ten in the morning. Ever since then the clock has stopped at ten on the anniversary of her death. It is said to have never once failed in the fourteen years that have passed.

The next House of Representatives will contain 292 members. Ninety-eight are necessary to prevent a two-thirds majority. Of this number the opposition has already secured eighty-nine, with only four or five more to hear from.

The London *Globe* is worried about the northwestern boundary of British Columbia, which impinges upon Alaska. Fear that the line is not so accurately defined as to preclude misunderstanding is the basis of a pathetic appeal to the Foreign Office to look closely into the matter.

The Postoffice Department at Washington gives notice that a large quantity of counterfeit postage stamps are in circulation. They are excellently engraved, nearly equal to the genuine.

In Louisiana, several important deposits of ochreous earth have lately been discovered which offer excellent facilities for the manufacture of paint. In Bienville and Jackson parishes there occur very commonly beds of fine grained yellow nodules which only require to be ground up in oil to equal the best terra di Sienna.

The relative merits of the Virginia and the North Carolina troops, during the late war, are a subject of quite heated controversy between General Early and General Hood. We suggest that the question be referred either to General Sherman or General Sheridan for decision.

Harvard has under contemplation a number of important changes. Attendance upon recitations will no longer be compulsory. The examinations will be as stringent as ever, and the responsibility to attend the recitations will rest upon the student, and the penalty will come in the loss of degrees. With this change will come the substitution of lectures for recitations. The experiment is shortly to be tried upon the present senior class.

The American Dairymen's Association will hold its eighth annual session at Utica, New York, on the 15th of next month. The Convention will continue three days, and addresses will be delivered and papers read upon topics of interest.

PERSONAL.

An interesting relic of the war has lately been presented to the Soldiers' Home at Dayton, in the shape of the saddle upon which Gen. Grant had ridden during all the battles from Fort Henry, in Tennessee, to the surrender of Lee, at Appomatox, Virginia. The saddle is like those used by other officers in the army, and is free from adornment or extra trappings. It is a substantial, well-made saddle, intended for use and not for ornament.

A London correspondent of the Boston *Globe* states that it is not at all unlikely that Mr. Benjamin, ex-Confederate Attorney General will be elevated to a judgship sooner or later. He is at this moment one of the most successful advocates at the English bar, with an enormous and growing practice. The appointment of a barrister of foreign descent to so high an office would be very unusual, if not unprecedented, in Great Britain. Mr. Benjamin is a man of brilliant ability as an advocate, and was honored by view as an orator when he sat in our national councils; his speech on retiring from the Senate, just before the war, was one of great power, not soon to be forgotten by those who heard it. He is of Jewish extraction, and if promoted to the English bench, will be the first of that faith to occupy a high judicial position in there. We may be to become Lord Chief-Justice, and Mr. Disraeli again Premier, the singular spectacle would be exhibited of Jewish heads of the English administration and the English law.

A few days before his death Edwin Forrest wrote these words to a friend: "My bodily health is now very good, but my mind is ill at ease. My sister, Eleonora, died Saturday last. I feel a sense of utter loneliness. There is no one now in the wide world whose veins bear kindred blood to mine." Referring to his will, the Philadelphia *Age* remarks, "that no mention is made in it of Mrs. Forrest, who, we believe, was never divorced from her husband, and may assert her rights as a widow. These, in Pennsylvania, will not materially diminish the bequest of the real estate, for in it the widow has only a life estate in one-third, and that is but a transient interruption of a bequest to the charity. All of the personal estate, Mrs. Forrest, unless there has been some obstacle interposed by voluntary stipulation, will, we suppose, have an absolute interest in one-third.

Boston is divided in her opinion of Stanley, although on the whole the verdict is favorable. The *Post* says "his figure, expression and manner on the platform fulfil the most flattering expectations concerning him," while the *Journal* thinks "he may congratulate himself on having quite refuted the various charges made against him by the envious and venal critics in New York;" the *Advertiser* on the other hand, believes that "a more faulty and ungratifying lecturer it would certainly be difficult to find."

There are on exhibition in Savannah, Georgia, three nearly grown persons, known as the Alligator children. The first has a scaly skin, and when lying down her actions are very similar to those of an alligator. The other two are not so distinctly marked, yet are similar in appearance and actions to their sister. They walk with difficulty; their usual style of locomotion is crawling, but when erect they walk on the tips of their toes. Their natural position is a recumbent one, and in that only are they at ease. The parents of these children are very destitute, but refused an offer of ten thousand dollars from a showman to take them North for exhibition.

Mr. Risley, the father of Miss Olive Risley Seward, is to be married in the spring to a California widow. Mr. Risley accompanied his daughter and Mr. Seward as far as California, when they took their trip around the world. He there met the lady he is shortly to marry.

Sidney Rigdon, who is reputed to have been the author of the Mormon Bible, and who at one time ranked next to Joe Smith in the church of the latter-day Saints, was stricken with paralysis last week, at his home in Allegany county, New York.

PAPER AND INK.

Preservation of Valuable Documents from Destruction by Fire.

Edward H. Hoskin, consulting and analytical chemist of Lowell, Mass., contributes to the Chicago *Tribune* his views as to the kinds of paper and ink which best resist the effects of fire. Mr. Hoskin has had considerable experience, having been one of the experts called upon to examine the account books, charred government bonds and other documents, results of the Boston conflagration. He says:

Account books are better when made of deep blue rather than when of white. White paper, of fine quality, is made from pure white rags; when colored to other, it confronts amazingly, and leaves only a black and very tender ash. Blue paper is made from the same stock, colored by the addition of lime smalts. This coloring matter is a kind of blue glass, powdered and bedcombustible. Paper of this description, when turned to a cinder, shows a bluish color, and does not contrast in anything like the same proportion. On burned white paper the writing is very obscure, while on the charred it is usually sufficiently clear to be easily rendered legible.

Ink is an important article, and that which for permanency of color is all that can be desired for book entries is not suggested to fire, becomes under this condition of an unsatisfactory description. A fine writing fluid turning black upon paper may be thus described: It is a solution of an iron salt in a certain degree of oxidation; when applied to paper it at once, on absorption, unites intimately with the fibre, and now on exposure to the atmosphere it attracts more oxygen gas, and the iron salt is converted to a higher state of oxidation, rendered insoluble, and on the principle of fast dyeing, assumes a permanent black color. These very circumstances militate against its usefulness, when the whole is exposed to the fire; the iron, first, and all contract irregularly, and the very intimacy of the union between the iron and fibre imparts to it a brittleness. The old fashioned ink—a strong mechanical suspension of the higher oxidized salt of iron in a weak solution of gallo-tannic acid—is superior in clogging the pen and becoming thick in the stand, is of much more service under the fire-proof conditions. On its application to paper the fluid is absorbed, and much of the insoluble ink matter lies merely on the surface and especially by drying of the gum water. On burning the paper this black pigment remains on the surface, and is almost without trouble perfectly legible—especially on fine bone material.

Copying ink is not supposed to be used in book, keeping; nevertheless it is used, more perhaps through inattention or carelessness than design. It differs I would infer: Copying ink has that property given to it chiefly by the mere addition of a little sugar. When dry—not copied—it usually has a shining surface. When two sheets of paper written upon with ink are pressed together, and baked back to a sale, the sugar melts, and evidentially forms a cementatious cement between the two surfaces, completely sticking them together, so that there is no chance to separate and decipher them.

Strong canvas envelopes do more than would be supposed toward preserving their contents, but cheese cloth is little enough to boast of.

Fancy inks, carmine, and red inks are utterly useless, as also are most of the so-called non-corrosive black inks—the first allowing a vestige to remain for ever, the second, Vermilion ink, used in printing some portions of books that came under my notice, is also useless, for the reason that heat volatilizes it, it being cinnabide of Mercury. Government bonds, coupons, &c., have apparently had much study and attention devoted to them to make a pretty and attractive appearance. The most insignificant counterfeit mark on these—and it is easy to do imitation—appears to be the summer. These documents are printed in a beautiful carmine ink, is unfairly easy of destruction by heat. Fortunately these valuable documents could be identified by the use of chemicals, for the reason that heat would cause no decided change, the effect of the pressure of the type on the linen previously printed on the paper.

Before the late disturbances in Washington it offered the public to send all such to headquarters, I was approached by the Messrs Bankers and requested to make some chemical, in order to develop the distinguished black. I could not, however, render any assistance, as there was nothing to which any chemical reagent could be applied.

The question then naturally comes, what brilliant color may be employed, seeing that carmine and vermilion are so easily destroyed? I would suggest the use of chromate of lead; its brilliancy is equal to equal to vermilion, but under certain circumstances is as permanent and a very small amount, if subjected to the action of fire, there would be ample material left on the charred paper to render the inscription quite easy and readable. The same covering matter would also answer for the seal and impress on bank bills, &c.

In reference to writing inks, I would mention that the non-corrosive inks before referred to are mostly natural vegetable juices, without any metallic base as the old-fashioned inks. Logwood, or as it is often the common name of which I don't know), a native of New Granada, gives a red juice which turns to a rich and permanent black; the juice also of the myrtle-leaved sumach, that of elderberries, etc., an infusion of logwood and a very small amount of chromate of potash—all very good for ordinary use, but not to withstand the action of fire there is nothing left by which to reveal any previous mark.

To sum up the drift of these remarks, I suggest—That account book paper should be a deep clay.

That bank ink, to best stand fire, should be quite rich in iron, if not having some even in suspense, although at the risk of clogging the pen and becoming thick in the stand.

That town inks for important matters should not be used at all.

That strong, canvas lined envelopes be used for loose paper.

That crimson printing ink for numbers of bonds, coupons, bank bills, etc., be made with Bodi-Chromate of Lead, which is at once beautiful and cheap.

That the binding of account books be mainly of black tease of strong canvas of sail-cloth, in preference to leather.

THE HOLIDAYS.

House Decorations for Christmas.

[From the Hearth and Home.]

Evergreens are the proper decoration for Christmas, as everybody knows. Flowers should be used sparingly, but still it is well to have a few—immortelles, life-everlasting, bachelors' buttons, chrysanthemums—flowers that do not easily wither. Bright berries may be freely used, and a cluster of autumn leaves will make an effective point of color in a mass of somber evergreens, or a swaying branch of the Boneset leaves will be found on hand in all the various shades of green in the forms of ivy, laurel, pine and cedar. A little color used more massively than the berries will admit of will be found very desirable.

The autumn leaves do not need to be varnished to last until Christmas. If laid in a newspaper and pressed under a weight they will keep sufficiently well for this purpose.

These and the flowers must be only for finishing touches of artistic beauty; the evergreens must be the working stock and principal part of the decoration. All kinds of these can be used, but some are more desirable than others, for instance, of the hemlocks, pine, and the cedar fail easily, and do not keep well in the house. With the exception of the cedar, it is a pity to banish them entirely, especially the hemlock, fir, spruce, ground pine, ivy, and moss are the best for all of the evergreens. Pine cones are especially desirable on account of its dark green leaves and gay clusters of berries. If seeds are always to save been held in especial veneration. The mistletoe is still more busy and venerable, having been revered both by pagan and Christian. But it is not advisable to make crosses of it (so lovingly do we cling to old-time traditions), and the legend of its use in entire imitance is that it was once a tree, but that the cross of our Saviour being made of it, banished to parasite.

Grasses, oats, etc., should not be "spotted" regularly all about a room. Indeed, it is well not to have very many geometrical figures, tridents, harps, shields, crosses, quatrefoils, etc. The best devices are the only ones that will bear much repetition of leaves are beautiful, but they are more appropriate in other forms—for instance in a border.

Over mirrors and large pictures mass your trimmings, but if small picture frames are trimmed, it should be ordinarily done, and the frames not concealed. A commanding doorway or an arch in the room gives a opportunity for lavish artistic adornment, where it will be most effective, and here you can use a diagonal wreath, light leaves and flowers, oranges, garlands, festoons and baskets.

The parlor will, of course, be the most trimmed and next the dining-room; but the hall very little.

The mistletoe is chiefly found in the Southern States, and to those who desire to hang a bough from the middle of the parlor ceiling for the sake of the fun and the kisses, we will give a friendly suggestion. Select one with fitted with the waxen berries, for, according to the custom, whenever a kiss is stolen a berry must be plucked.

THE "COMMERCIAL."

Good Words From Our Contemporaries.

[From the Canton, (Ohio,) Repository and Republican.]

The COMMERCIAL reaches Canton early in the morning, and is getting to be the universal dependence of the public for the daily news. It is one of the most comprehensive and reliable papers in this country.

[From the Blair County Radical, Altoona.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is by all odds the best daily in Western Pennsylvania. The COMMERCIAL excels its Pittsburgh contemporaries—1st, in the excellence, variety and quantity of its editorial matter; 2d, in the fulness and completeness of its telegraphic news; 3d, in the fullness and reliability of its market reports, and 4th, in its enterprise generally. Besides a daily edition which reaches this city early in the morning, and all the important points in the county by ten o'clock in the forenoon, it issues a large nine-column weekly, filled with the latest news, editorials on general subjects, full market reports, valuable agricultural matter and miscellaneous reading especially designed for those who live at points too remote to be reached daily. We have no hesitancy in commending the COMMERCIAL, and its superiority is so generally acknowledged by the people of this county, and its course so generally approved, that it is needless to write anything further.

[From the Lancaster Express.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL, one of the most successful newspaper enterprises of the country, enters upon the year 1873 with the most flattering prospects. Under its able editor, C. B. Brigham, it has attained a vast influence in Western Pennsylvania as well as secured a very large subscription and advertising patronage. No newspaper reaches our table which is more cordially welcomed than the DAILY COMMERCIAL. The moderate and conservative tone of its editorials on all public questions, and its excellent telegraphic and news reports, places it beyond rivalry in the Iron City. In addition to the daily there is also a weekly edition printed, at $2 per year to single subscribers.

Rapid Work at the Johnstown Steel Works.

The JOHNSTOWN *Mountain Press* of the 20th says: The greatest number of heats ever made in any steel works in the world, in the same time, was accomplished at the steel works in this city last night. From five o'clock in the evening until five o'clock in the morning, twelve hours, sixteen heats were successfully run, each heat making sixteen rails. Each rail weighing 650 pounds, making a grand total of 71,720 pounds of steel manufactured in twelve hours. This grand achievement stands unequaled in the history of steel manufacture, and in our opinion justly merits a place among the wonderful events of the time. Mr. John Rynard was blower, and Mr. George Eggebach was foreman, and to their skill and energy this wonderful triumph of manufacture may be partially attributed.

A LARGE and evidently one of the fairest and most clearly proven claims for cotton and other property, taken during the war by the Federal army, that has yet been presented against the government, is that of Robert M. and Stephen A. Douglas, the sons and sole heirs of the late Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, offered in the House yesterday. The amount claimed is $250,000, for fifteen hundred bales of cotton, and a large amount of plantation stock and implements, excessive of animals, destroyed and used for the troops, who, in March, 1865, took the same from the Douglas plantation, in Washington county, Mississippi. The evidence is abundant, and is both corroborative and cumulative. A much smaller amount is claimed than, according to the proof, they might justly have demanded. There is an interesting history connected with this case, showing, among other things, the unconscionable rise that were made through President Lincoln and by Gen. Grant, to save the property of the sons of the then Democratic statesman. Until within a few weeks the petitioners have been unable to obtain all the evidence required, so that heretofore they could not have presented the claim, and the limitation of the captured and abandoned property act, which confers jurisdiction in such claims, having long since expired, their only remedy is an appeal to Congress.

AN old farmer named Blodgett suddenly disappeared from Collamer, Onondaga county, N. Y., five years ago, and as he had considerable money on his person at the time, the general impression was that he had been murdered. The man's property was only administered upon and divided among the heirs, none of his own family ever having had any doubt of his death. But such was not the case. A few weeks ago the Blodgett family received a letter purporting to come from the supposed dead man, postmarked at a town in the Pennsylvania oil region, asking for money to bring him home. One of the sons immediately visited the place, found that the writer was really his father, and took him home. The old gentleman has not yet told the story of his wanderings, or the reasons for his mysterious departure. Meanwhile the lawyers of the vicinity are puzzling themselves over the knotty question, what disposal will be made of the administered and divided estate.

A Valuable Medical Treatise.

The edition for 1873 of the sterling medical annual known as Hostetter's Almanac is now ready and may be obtained, free of cost, of druggists and general country dealers in all parts of the United States and British America, and indeed in every civilized portion of the Western Hemisphere. This Almanac has been issued regularly at the commencement of every year for about one-fifth of a century. It combines with the soundest practical advice for the preservation and restoration of health, a large amount of interesting and amusing light reading, and the calendar, astronomical calculations, chronological items, &c., are prepared with great care, and will be found entirely accurate. The issue of Hostetter's Almanac for 1873 will probably be the largest edition of a medical work ever published in any country. The proprietors, Messrs. Hostetter & Smith, Pittsburgh, Pa., on receipt of a two cent stamp, will forward a copy by mail to any person who cannot procure one in his neighborhood.

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HORSES, MULES, CATTLE, AND OTHER LIVE STOCK.
KERSHNER'S JUSTLY CELEBRATED
I X L HORSE LINIMENT
WILL CURE
Sweeny, Fistula, Poll Evil, Ringbone in early Stage, Spavins, Bruises, Fleh Cure, Scratches, Grassed Heel, Cuboss Curb, Rheumatism, Contraction of Muscles, Diseases of the Bowels, Colic, Foot Rot of Sheep, &c.
ITS MERITS HAVE BEEN TESTED
by many of the largest horse and cattle dealers and many of the best men in the country, and in no instance has any one who has given it a trial refused to give testimony in its favor. It has cured diseases before the public. We ask you to give it a trial. It will prove all we claim for it.
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Chartered in 1852.
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Jas. Caldwell & Co.
Are now offering very choice lines of
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At prices ranging from 25 to 50 Cents per Yard. Also, a magnificent stock of
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BRANDIES, WINES, CIGARS, &c.
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Burton Bass Ale in hhds. and bbls.

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This Mortgage is a first lien upon the first twelve miles of the Road, and is a lien to the whole R. R., has sixteen years to run, is an A solid security, and pays 7 per cent. on the investment.

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FINANCE AND TRADE

SATURDAY EVENING, December 21, 1872.

The proper mode for a banker to treat a bill lading when attached to a draft sent him for collection is occupying a good deal of attention on the part of the press and the representatives of the banks. We gave some days since a circular from the Philadelphia Clearing House, notifying their correspondents that in case of time drafts having bills of lading attached, they would, in absence of any instructions to the contrary surrender the bill of lading on acceptance of the draft. To-day we were shown the following circular issued by the banks of Cincinnati:

DEAR SIR: In future, all bills of lading accompanying time drafts, sent to this bank for collection, will be held until the draft is paid, unless specially instructed to deliver the same to the drawee on acceptance.

It will be noted that the position thus taken is exactly the opposite to that of the Eastern banks.

The question involved seems to be whether a bill of lading is an evidence of title. We claim that practically it is not, and legally it should not be absolute evidence of title. If it were so, any thief who should come into possession of property, not his own, by shipping the same at the first railroad depot or steamboat landing would come into possession of a bill of lading, which, being absolute evidence of title, he could negotiate at the first bank he came to, thus giving the bank good title and leaving the real owner without redress.

What use there is in retaining the bill of lading, when the draft is accepted, we cannot see, for the acceptor can get possession of his goods without the bill of lading, if he is known, or can be identified to the railroad company. To answer to our question as to the custom of the roads in this regard, one of our leading railroad freight agents says: "Property is delivered to consignees as manifested, regardless of the bill of lading, unless notation is made on the manifest to deliver only on presentation of the bill of lading, and this is only done when property is consigned by shippers to their own order. The bill of lading is evidence only that the shipper has shipped goods as described in it case, however, where the consignee is not known personally we demand identification before delivery."

If a rule requiring the retention of the bill of lading until the draft is paid were made absolute, and the railroads should hold goods till the bill of lading was presented, it would block the wheels of commerce, and render the transfer and sale of produce well nigh impossible. However, under the recent decision in the Boston custom case, it seems in absence of specific instructions the bank to which the papers are sent has no right to assume the authority to separate them. It would be well for the Clearing House Association to take some action on the subject that there may be uniformity of practice among the bankers here.

The New York *Journal of Commerce*, an eminent authority in practical business matters, very pertinently says:

We wish the shipper, or his home banker, whichever has the right to dictate the terms, to assume the proper responsibility himself, and not shift it instead of his correspondent. This is the most desirable. But we protest against the continued practice of throwing the responsibility in these cases upon our banks and bankers to whom the papers are forwarded. The shipper and his banker should have the bill of lading surrendered to his drawer, and the bank to whom the draft is sent for collection is not justified in assuming any responsibility in the absence of directions to the contrary. In the absence of directions the two papers should both be retained by the collecting agency, thus forcing the shipper, and drawer, if he wishes to secure himself, to assume the responsibility by positive instructions to that effect.

If the bill of lading is to be surrendered on acceptance of the draft, it should be so stipulated; if it is not so ordered, let the bank hold on to the property at the risk of the shipper until the draft is paid or secured.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Bid.	Askd.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	Morn.	Even.
U. S. Bonds of 1862	112	112¼
U. S. Bonds of 1864	112¼	112½
U. S. Bonds of 1865	112⅝	112¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	113¼	113½
U. S. Bonds of 1867	116	116
U. S. Bonds of 1868	116	116
10-40s	109½	109¾
New 5s	111¾	111¾
Gold	111¾	111¾
Currency 6s	112¾	112¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

December 21, 1872.	10:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	111¾	111¾	111¾	111	111
Canton			50		
Western Union Tel	80½		80½	80½	
Quicksilver			36	36	
Pacific Mail	28	28	28½	28½	
Adams Express			95½	95¾	
Wells, Fargo Express			88	88	
American Exp'ss			59½	59½	
United States Express			79½	79	
New York Central			95¾	95¾	
Erie	60¼	60	60	59⅞	
Michigan Central			96	96	
Michigan Southern	90¾	85	90¾	91	
Illinois Central			130	130	
Cleveland and Pittsb'g			101	101	
Chicago and Northwest	82¾	82	83	83	
Do preferred	86¼	86½	89	89½	
Rock Island	103¾	103¾	104	104	
Pt. Paul	40¾	38½	40¾	40¾	
Do. preferred	77½	77½	77½	77½	
Wabash			72¾	72¾	
Do. Preferred					
Fort Wayne	95	94	94	94	
Ohio and Mississippi	36¾	36¾	37	37	
Union Pacific	38¾	37½	38¾	38¾	
Chicago and Alton		111	111	111	
Do. preferred			114	113	
Boston, Hartford & Erie			13	13	
Harlem*		113	113	113	
New Jersey Central			100½	100½	

*Ex-Dividend.

Messrs. Robinson Bros., bankers, No. 78 Fourth avenue, furnish the following telegraphic report of quotation of active stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board to-day:

Penn'a Central	95¾ Phila. and Erie 25¾
Reading	99¾ Lehigh Navigation 36¼
United Co.'s of N. J.	171½ Pittsburgh 5s 73¾
Oil Creek & A. R.	39½ U. S. 6s, 1881 94
Lehigh Valley R. R.	59 Central Transp'n

—Ex-dividend.

HORSE SHOES.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, December 23, 1872.

The following are the correct rates for horse and mule shoes, as furnished by Shoenberger & Co.:

Horse shoes, ₰ keg 100 lbs.....$6 25
Horse shoes, ₰ keg 50 lbs.....6 50
Horse shoes, extra.....6 75
Mule shoes, ₰ keg, $1 00 higher.

Gloucester Fish Market.

[For the week ending December 19.]

Georges Codfish—in good demand, and prices have advanced. Last sales at 4½ @5¼ ₰ qtl., new held at 5½ @5 75. Bank 4½.

Mackerel—Last sales Bays at 5¾ @6 ₰ bbl. No stock of any account in the market.

Fresh Halibut—Very scarce. One small face arrived Wednesday, which was sold for 8½ @9 ₰ pound.

Smoked Halibut—10 @ 12.

Oil—Market is easy, and prices have advanced. Last sales at 60 ₰ gallon.—*Cape Ann Advertiser.*

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, December 21, 1872.

REMARKS—The weather continues extremely cold, with little signs of "letting up." The streets and sidewalks are in perfect impassible condition on account of the ice. The hopes of coalboat men have again been blasted, and they will have to await the "next time coming" with the best grace they can. All classes of business men are busily engaged taking stock and squaring accounts, so that they can enter upon the coming year with a correct knowledge of the state of their affairs. If we except flour and grain, there is little stir, and no change in the market. Wheat, corn and oats continue in very light receipt, and mills and dealers to feel that it difficult to procure supplies to meet the close ends upon them. The result is high prices and firm and advancing. Although the receipts of western flours are fair they fall below the demand, and leading houses assure us that they cannot procure it in sufficient quantities to promptly meet all orders. The advance predicted in our last report has taken place, and the prospects are that fancy winter brands will go still higher. In consequence of the scarcity and high prices of white, amber and red winter wheats, flours made from these grades will rule very high for the masses, who will fall back on cheaper western brands, which will create a better demand for that description of breadstuffs. Apples, potatoes, turnips and all other articles liable to suffer from frost require careful handling just now. Quite a other hand, poultry and all varieties of game are in a good state of preservation. Prime butter and fresh eggs continue scarce and sell well up in the figures.

Below will be found the ruling quotations of the market, the reader being especially reminded that they are wholesale unless special mention is made of the fact:

ASHES—Following are the ruling figures of the market: Pearls 11@11½; pots 10@; soda ash, 4½@5c; refined 6@6½c; nitrate soda 4¼@5c; absolute 8½@8¾c.

APPLE BUTTER—We are reported a fair demand at 45@50c per gallon.

APPLES—The receipts are on the increase, being 615 barrels. There are no changes in prices, and we quote good cooking apples, free from frost, at $2 00 @2 25 ₰ barrel. When packages are returned $3 are allowed for barrels and $1 50 for half-bbl.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—We have no changes to note in prices. There is a good demand for meats at this season of the year and the upward state of the weather. We continue to quote as follows: Sugar-cured hams 15c; sugar cured shoulders 7½c; plain shoulders 6½c; breakfast bacon 9½c; clear sides $4 50; ribsides 9c; clear rib sides 9½c; clear sides 8½c; dried beef 9c; ham sausage 10c; lard, in tier 6c, in bbl., in half-bbls, 10c; in kegs, 10½c; kegs, 10½c; pigs feet, $2 50 per keg; pigs feet, per half-bbl, $1 50.

BEANS—There is an active demand for prime white navy at $2 70@2 80 ₰ bushel; common grades $2 60.

BUCKWHEAT—Sales in a jobbing way at 3½@3½c ₰ lb.

BUTTER—Receipts liberal, being 792 packages. Prices show no change, and we continue to quote prime to choice roll 28@32c ₰ lb; medium 15@20c; common 9@12c.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—There is a fair demand at the following wholesale rates: 1 lb cans $3 25 ₰ doz; ½ lb cans $3 25 ₰ doz; ¼ lb cans $1 75 ₰ doz.

BRAN, MIDDLINGS—Sales in a jobbing way at 1¼@1½, as to quality, in small lots.

CANNED MEATS—Market quiet and sales unimportant. We quote as follows: Roast beef, No. 1, 2 lbs, clear soups 60c; shoulders 55c. Lard 16@17c ₰ lb.

CEMENT—Market quiet and steady. We quote: Cakeheart plaster $4 50@4 75 ₰ bbl; Bosworth's hydraulic cement $2 00@2 25; Louisville $2 50@2 75; Rosedale $4 00@4 25.

CANDLES—Prices unchanged. Stearine at 14½@15c ₰ lb; mould 12c; star 21½@22c.

CHEESE—Receipts improving, footing up 622 box. Prices evince no change, and the market rules rather slow. We are reported sales of prime New York Goshen at 15½@16c; Ohio Goshen 15¾@16c; Dairy ins ide; Factory 14¾@15c.

CIDER—Under light receipts prices are firmer, with sales at 8@10 c gal, at 3 ₰ bbl, $2 00.

CRANBERRIES—There is a continued good demand for both the Cape and Jersey's, being held at $10@13 ₰ bbl; common and cultivated $9@13 ₰ bbl.

CARBON OIL—There is a fair demand, standard brands, round lots bringing 23½@24c ₰ gallon, jobbing lots 25c.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Sales reported at $5 ₰ case; demand fair.

DRIED FRUITS—There is no change to note in dried fruits, and nearly the same figures as we reported sales at the following figures: Bright dry apples at 5¼@5½c, with some extra, cycling into a shade higher; peaches, new crop, 8@9c; bright peeled peaches, 20@22c; blackberries, 12@13c; seedless raisins, $3 50@3 75 ₰ box.

EGGS—Prime fresh eggs continue to be offered in the market, and are likely to continue so for a time. We quote at 34@35c ₰ dozen.

FEATHERS—There is a better feeling in the market, improved, perhaps, by the cold weather. We quote: No. 1 live geese feathers 72@75c ₰ lb on the trade, with the usual advance for jobbing lots.

FISH—White fish at $5 50 per half barrel; mackerel, shore, $20@25 per barrel; No 1 bay $17@18; No 2 shore, medium, $12; extra $14; No. 3 large, in good demand, $4 75@5; and $2 @3 in small; No. 1 fish $6 50@7 for medium; new Labrador split $5 50 @6 00; new Labrador $7 50.

FRUITS—Receipts and sales of our last 1,326 bbls. The market is somewhat excited, and all brands of apples have advanced. Should the receipts of wheat continue as meager as at present this city will have to depend on what comes in for the bulk of their supplies, as choice brands of winter wheat flour will command such figures as to place them "out of the reach of all. Following are the latest current to-day (Monday): Penn mills $9 00 ₰ bbl; Rising Sun $8 50; Keystone $8 50; Madison mills $8 50; Island Minnesota $8 00; Red Jacket (bakers') $8 25. Buckwheat flour scarce at $9 50@10 00.

GROCERIES—Prices have undergone no change since our last. New Orleans sheets every firm and the same is true of coffees and sugars. We are reported a fair trade demand, taking into consideration the time of the year and the state of the weather. The following are the figures at which actual sales are made:

Sugars—Knights's yellow 8½c; Knight's extra C 9c; Demarara 11½@11¾c; Monquimetal C 11¾c; A 12¾; extra C, 11¾; white coffee A, 12¾@12¾c; confectionary A 12¾c; crushed 13¼c; granulated 13¼c per gallon.

Coffees—Fancy Rio coffee 24½c; prime 23@23½c; good 21@21½; fair 20@20½c; ordinary 19½c. Roasted, in packages, 25c.

Syrup—Orleans—prime 70c; choice 75c; Union 72c; B & S extra 55c; do fancy 65c; Revere 55c; maple 60c; extra maple 65c; common 270@36c.

Coal oil—Globe Sight 8½; Eagle 9½; Lucine 9½; Crystal 9½; Keystone 9½; Diamond 9½; star 21½@22c.

Cheese—Receipts improving footing up 622 box. Prices evince no change, and the market rules rather slow. We are reported sales of prime New York Goshen at 16@16½c; Ohio Goshen 15¾@16c; Dairy ins ide; Factory 14¾@15c.

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CRANBERRIES—There is a continued good demand for both the Cape and Jersey's, being held at $10@13 ₰ bbl; common and cultivated $9@13 ₰ bbl.

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Coal oil—Globe Sight 8½; Eagle 9½; Lucine 9½; Crystal 9½; Keystone 9½; Diamond 9½; star 21½@22c.

Shipments of Refined Oil East via A. V. R. R., W. P. R. R. and P. R. R.

WEST PENN JUNCTION, December 20, 1872.

Central Refining Co., 1,250 bbls to Wm. Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Crystal Oil Works, 1,868 bbls to Wm. Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Crystal Oil Works, 1,868 bbls to Wm. Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Crystal Oil Works, 1,868 bbls to Warden,

THE VERY LATEST.

FIRE PROOF DELUSION.

Corrugated Iron Built Presbyterian Tabernacle, in Brooklyn, Burned, "Jubilee" Organ and All—Loss $95,000—The "Defective Flue" Again.

NEW YORK, December 22.—The Central Presbyterian Tabernacle, in Brooklyn, of which Rev. T. DeWitt Talmadge, is pastor, was destroyed by fire this morning. The fire broke out at 9:30 A. M., the sexton and his assistant being the only persons in the building at the time, and originated in one of the flues, bursting forth suddenly. As soon as discovered the sexton rang the bell and gave the alarm, which brought thousands of spectators to the scene. An attempt was made to extinguish the flames with pails of water, but without avail, and the fire had made rapid progress when the firemen arrived. A strong gale was blowing, and the flames swept around the church, destroying everything in their way. The ceiling and walls, which were corrugated iron, became red hot and curled off. The immense Jubilee organ was soon reduced to a cinder, and the whole interior of the edifice became one mass of flame. By the exertions of the firemen the fire was confined to the church. The roof fell in at half-past ten o'clock, and soon after the cupola, which the bell weighing two thousand pounds, with the bell weighing two thousand pounds, with the bell weighing two thousand pounds, with